

From: James Cheezem
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 1:15pm
Subject: The Mircosoft settlement is unacceptable

To Whom it may concern:

After reading the proposed settlement in the Microsoft anti-trust case, I noticed many areas that do not assign damages that are in line with the damage that Microsoft has caused. As an independent software developer, I have many issues as to the quality of Microsoft's products. If I cannot have full and unfettered access to the Application Program Interface (API) of a specific operating system, I cannot use the full potential of the system that is running this OS. Therefore, Microsoft encourages badly written software by obscuring the API from scrutiny.

Section J of the settlement's prohibited conduct section addresses the API and provides Microsoft a loophole to keep this important information to themselves: security. In my opinion, this is the one area of the API that should be forced to be open. Given Microsoft's poor performance in the area of security in the past, they should not be allowed to hide anything behind the mantle of "security concerns."

Thank you for your time.

James Cheezem
Greenville, SC